



'Helpers' seeks donations

Group in need of gifts prior to Saturday's distribution

By MARY FORNEY
Staff writer

"Holiday helpers" are needed this week to pick up, organize, wrap and deliver Christmas presents to people in the community.

Jacque Sims, who has been coordinator of the local Holiday Helpers for 11 years, is seeking volunteers 5:30-9 p.m. Monday-Wednesday.

Helpers will distribute the donated Christmas gifts to nearly 300 needy families Saturday, Dec. 17.

"Last year, we assisted 325 families with Christmas," Sims said.

Normally headquartered at the National Guard Armory facility, Holiday Helpers has moved this

year to 1314 Sheridan Ave., between Pizza on the Run and Verizon.

According to Sims, the most-asked-for items on wish lists are beds and toilet paper.

"Things asked for every year are as simple as toilet paper, dish soap, laundry soap, bar soap, brooms and mops," she said. "Many on the wish lists ask for twin beds as kids are sleeping on floors, inflatable mattresses and blankets.

"Dressers are another big need this year. We accept used, as well as new things, big and small."

Donated new items are wrapped and given to the families as Christmas presents. When a clothing size request is not found locally, Sims has ordered what the family member needs online.

Holiday Helpers is a united Christmas gift-giving program to families and seniors in the community.

Sponsoring organizations include the Department of Family Services, churches, Hope House, Yellowstone Behavioral Health, and Soroptimists.

The program started 15 years ago when people began dropping off donations for families at DFS.

According to Sims, who started out as a community volunteer during its first year, DFS became inundated with the donations.

"This is such a generous community," Sims said. "People kept dropping off gifts, and DFS didn't have the manpower to handle all the donations."

This year, donations range from clothing items to bicycles to furniture.

"People make their own Christmas - we just put something under their tree," Sims said.

Donations for the program are Please see **HELPERS**, page A-2



Sunset School Student Council volunteers Beka Pelfrey (left) and Emily Larsen (right) wrap Christmas presents for the community Holiday Helpers on Saturday.

Seeing is believing at Santa House

Max Werner, 8, (right) sits by while Santa reads over Max's Christmas list as families visited the Santa House, which opened for the season Saturday in City Park.

Simon Austin, 4, (bottom, left) and sister Autumn, 6, wait outside the Santa House for their chance to enter. The house will be open this weekend - 4-6 p.m. Friday and 1-3 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, and throughout the following week.



Lawsuit filed over mailing

By MARY FORNEY
Staff writer

A personal injury lawsuit has been filed by Dr. Jimmie Biles Jr., M.D., against Dr. John Schneider Jr., M.D. and his wife Michelle Schneider.

Last year, Dr. Biles, who is an orthopedic surgeon practicing in Cody, was the victim of defaming flyers mailed to Big Horn Basin residents.

The lawsuit alleges the Schneiders paid Lisa Fallon, who lives in Indiana, to send the mass mailing in October 2010.

Dr. Schneider is a neurosurgeon who practices in both Billings and Cody.

The "defendants, one or all of them, set out on a course of conduct with the intention of publishing false statements about (Biles) in an attempt to destroy (his) credibility as a medical doctor, destroy his reputation in the community, and destroy his medical practice," says the statement of facts and conspiracy filed Dec. 7 in the

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SNF plan hearings still a go

By MARK HEINZ
Staff writer

Even if the county and Forest Service can't agree, efforts to update the Shoshone Forest plan should continue, the county commissioners said.

"(SNF Supervisor) Joe Alexander has stated he will treat us as cooperators, regardless of whether we have a memorandum of understanding (MOU)," commission chairman Bucky Hall said.

The county and SNF have so far been unable to come to terms over the MOU - or basic cooperative agreement between the two entities. The agreement was last updated in 2006.

Alexander wants to update the forest management plan as soon as possible.

Hall and other county officials have expressed concern that if an update to the forest plan

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Church's community Christmas dinner Sunday

By MATTHEW DAVIS
Staff writer

The annual Cody Community Christmas Dinner will be Sunday, Dec. 18, in the Cody Club Room.

The dinner is hosted by Cody Christian and Missionary Alliance

Church and will be served 5:30-7 p.m. The event is free, and the community is invited.

"The community dinner is for the people in Cody who are needy, but you don't have to be needy to come," said Tammy Collins, who is coordinating

the event this year.

"If you have a neighbor who is a widow or a single mom, or if you know someone who is lonely or can't drive, you can invite them and enjoy a meal with the community," she added.

The church sponsors the community dinner, and volunteers prepare the meal.

This is the fourth year that the dinner has been hosted by the church.

(Matthew Davis can be reached at matt@codyenterprise.com.)

'Yellowstone' not exclusive to YRA

By MARK HEINZ
Staff writer

Apparently there's enough of the Yellowstone name to go around.

At least when it comes to airport titles.

Gallatin Field Airport in Bozeman, Mont., recently decided to change its official moniker to "Boz-

eman-Yellowstone International Airport at Gallatin Field."

Still, that should not affect things at Yellowstone Regional Airport, manager Bob Hooper said.

"I don't see how that will cause any confusion or take anything away from us," he said early Monday. "We already have another air-

port with 'Yellowstone' in the name, West Yellowstone Airport."

Gallatin airport officials have said they hope the name change will help attract more customers bound for Yellowstone Park, especially international travelers.

Like YRA, the Bozeman airport has recently seen an expansion of its

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Fillies win big, page B-1.

DEATHS

Patricia Harres, 81, Lake Elsinore, Calif.
Shirley Lock, 63, Cody.
Norman Miller, 83, Cody.
Flo Wheeler, 67, Cody.

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Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Partly sunny	Clouds and sun; colder in the p.m.	A couple of snow showers possible
34° 19°	39° 15°	35° 11°